

Dear Commissioner Henney,

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Like many Americans, I am very concerned about the safety of the food I choose to eat. I believe it is my right as a consumer to know if the food I am eating has been genetically altered. Such foods pose unknown risks to the environment, to family farmers, and to my health and the health of others.

We have little understanding of the long term results of GE foods. Monsanto is growing corn with genes of bacillus thuringensis that kills butterflies and other beneficial insects. These genes have already escaped and cross-bred with wild food sources for these insects. Round-up ready soybeans allow greater use of this herbicide in soybean growth. Flounder genes are being spliced with tomatoes and strawberries to make them frost resistant. Terminator seeds produce sterile seeds so farmers cannot save seeds. We must regulate this research for public safety.

In May, a lawsuit was filed challenging the F.D.A.'s policy not to require labels on transgenic foods. I am writing in support of the demands of this lawsuit for safety testing and complete and prominent labels. Consumers should not be made unknowing guinea pigs in the industries experiments with potentially dangerous foods.

I am eager to hear that the F.D.A. is living up to its mandate to protect public health and will provide the consumers with the information we need about the food we eat.

Sincerely,

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